

Men With Faces Of Bread And Souls Of Bread

We are looking for a man with a face of bread,
a soul of bread
And many more men also born from its crust.

We have an excess of plains where the wheat
maddened, becomes golden
Where the corn of America explodes in love
with the earth.

We have an excess of millionaire mountains that
deliver themselves
And valleys where harvests are born without seeds.

We have an excess of enormous brown rivers
without banks
And small streams where the willow becomes poetry.

We have an excess of humus, plankton, stone, sweet
or salty water
We have an excess of everything, mild triangle
of America.

We are only short of the hands which could understand
That although we have an excess of everything
misery is drawing near...

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a soul of bread
And many more men also born from its crust.

-- Ariel Canzani D.

Translator: William Shand

Buenos Aires, Rep. Argentina

Letter From a Draft-Resister

Today breeze-swept rains
Washed Spring through my bones.
Letters opened the day
As they can:
I was grateful
To hear of your late reprieve.

Still, it seemed that this
Was like so many
Other breathing days --

One more pause
Full of transparent
Calm -- which you cannot control.

I, the paralytic,
The helpless friend,
Must watch this ancient
Spring
Carry you in descent,
In the vortex of its rage.

Summer spends heat,
Autumn's embers fall --
But no other season
Is at war
With itself, as Spring is.
You will wear its mark.

Demian, when he
Threaded consciousness
So painstakingly,
Uncovered
All that's lost between
Situation and the self.

Vestiges

Essex, Old Lyme,
Saybrook, etc. --
spattered along
the coast, they
never dry up,
only linger:
villages for the
old and retired.
These must be
Connecticut's
furthest reaches,
her saddest eyes.
There are no cliffs;
faces are chalky.
Salt wind corrodes
the skin, burns
through the retina.

Hands fumble with
the lemonade, a
towel. Saliva
flecks appear.
Lace-tipped fingers
wave to others.
Thoughts coruscate,